

THE WORLD'S NEW D DAY

THE American Ambassador to Britain sees the world approaching a new D Day—a period in which we must continue to develop the idea of mutual aid among the nations, who will put everything into a common pool. “Nothing less will suffice,” says Mr Winant, “nothing less would have sufficed on D Day. We must become a team of friends in peacetime as we have been a team of friends in war.”

This practical vision of the Ambassador means a D Day for the common people of the nations and not for statesmen and leaders alone. The wartime D Day was the magnificent accomplishment of the enlisted soldier, sailor, and airman of the United Nations, inspired one and all by the mighty conception of liberating the continent of Europe and giving freedom and happiness to millions.

The world's new D Day, like the original D Day, has its basis in friendship. Without that solid basis which can survive all suspicion, prejudice, and misguided gossip the world's future as an ordered community of civilised peoples can have no lasting foundation. The enduring trends of human life are now being moulded in the habits of the world's peoples—how we speak of one another, how we regard the peoples of foreign countries, and how they think and speak of us. “It means guarding our tongues,” Mr Winant says, “and our passions—and even our gestures. It means acting as if the welfare of our neighbour nation is as important as the welfare of our own.”

THIS may sound an impossibly high ideal and almost unattainable in a world which is tired, dispirited, and, in many countries, hungry and cold. But we must remember that D Day, and all that led to it and all that has since followed, appeared to many doubting hearts a goal which could never be reached. There were many prophets of gloom and disaster who had to be dismissed or converted before the high endeavour could be consummated.

The challenge of the new D Day is the challenge of a world that must unite or perish. The past bravery of countless citizens of the

free nations has been poured into this cause of freedom and justice for all, and we have now to face betrayal or loyalty to the ideals they believed in. Old habits, old ways, old traditions based on selfishness and greed will very quickly creep back into their accustomed places unless we are vigilant to see that the new D Day means a victory over them now as it did in the days of war.

How to live together as friends and as a community of peoples was, we must bear in mind, only partially learned under the stress of war. We were compelled then to subdue our national selfishness and our individual pride so that the noble purposes to which we had unitedly pledged our minds and resources might be triumphantly accomplished. We must now go on to complete the learning of those hard lessons in the practical school of friendship and mutual aid.

WE must marshal our resources of food and fuel, clothes and industrial equipment, transport and scientific knowledge for the common use of all the world family. The new D Day demands as much imagination in organisation and control as the D Day which launched a million men on the beaches of Normandy. That great undertaking would not have been victorious without the loyal dedication of the world's valour, wealth, and total resources, and it is not too much to assume that its peaceful counterpart will demand as much.

The new D Day which calls for such high resolve and persistent effort in stabilising world friendship and creating an ordered community in human affairs is really a continuation of the first D Day. They stand together. Victory on the Normandy beaches is now being tested by the manner in which we feed the world's hungry peoples, re-stock the devastated countries, re-equip the factories of Europe, and stimulate the free flow of the world's trade. If we can do all this together as a world family we shall have won a critical D Day which in its turn will lead to further victories in a world at peace.

WHY WE MUST GO ON SAVING

ON September 15 London will open the Nation's series of Thanksgiving Weeks by an impressive ceremony in Trafalgar Square attended by members of the Cabinet and Sir Harold Mackintosh, Chairman of the National Savings Committee. This ceremony, which will be broadcast, will begin a week of pageantry in London, including a drumhead service in Trafalgar Square.

London's week will culminate on Saturday, September 22, with a big Youth parade in Trafalgar Square of young men and women of the pre-Service organisations, who will afterwards give a display in Hyde Park.

The emphasis is on Youth, too, in the demonstrations and parades throughout the country during Thanksgiving Weeks. By the end of August more than 600 towns had announced the dates of their Thanksgiving Weeks, and in nearly all of them there are to be parades and displays by young people.

Part of the aim of these Thanksgiving Weeks is to demonstrate our resolve to go on saving even though the war is over. For it is an essential patriotic duty to continue saving in order to protect our

country from the manifold troubles—and perhaps economic disaster—which an orgy of reckless spending in this immediate post-war period would bring about.

If, now that peace has come, people were to start spending their money lavishly in buying all sorts of luxuries, one evil consequence would be that workers returning from the Services would be diverted to the manufacture of useless things, and there would be fewer workers available for the vital work of reconstruction: for building houses, for transforming factories, and making the equipment for peacetime production in them, and, above all, for manufacturing the goods we must export to overseas countries in return for our importing from them sufficient food.

Also, our Government needs to borrow our money to pay for reconstruction and for the repair of war damage, to pay income tax post-war credits, and to meet many other liabilities caused by the war. The Government cannot obtain all the money it needs by means of taxation, for that is already very high in Britain, and any increase would mean real hardship for many people.

Floating Dispensaries

ON the waterways of Travancore in Southern India the Church Missionary Society has launched some floating dispensaries to meet the health needs of the isolated villages. They are large country boats with a rounded cover thatched with mats or reeds, and two boatmen pole and paddle the craft.

The dispensary carries medical supplies for treatment of the common diseases of the district, such as dysentery, diabetes, and malnutrition. The doctor on board ties up his boat at the village landing stage and usually finds a crowd waiting for him. In one recent trip he gave hundreds of injections against cholera.

Continued from the previous column

We thank God that the fighting and the destruction is now over, but now the colossal task of reconstruction lies before us, of healing the wounds of war, and building a better world—and it is a task that in some ways is as formidable as was defeating the common foe.

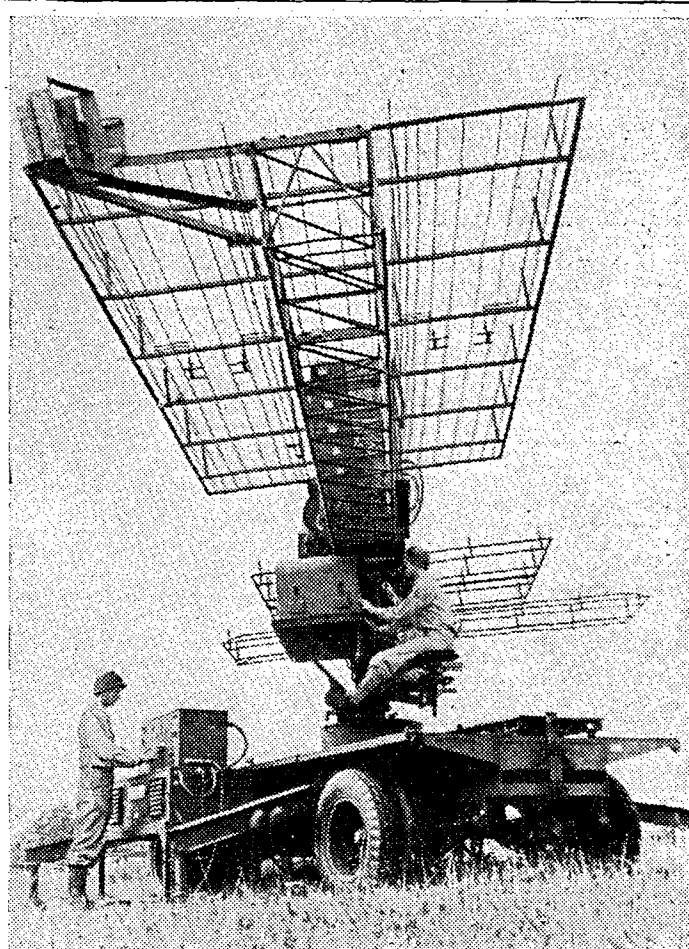
We can all help to accomplish this second task by saving our money and lending it to the Government, thus hastening the day when there will be plenty of everything for all of us to buy.

CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

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The Miracle of Radar

This travelling radar set was used during the war to locate the position of unseen enemy aircraft. It automatically sent signals for the control of searchlights and A A guns.

CORNWALL SEARCHES FOR URANIUM

THE announcement that uranium is the basis of the atomic bomb has aroused active interest in Cornwall, where pitchblende, an impure uranium oxide, was discovered long ago.

Old miners are recalling the days when in their quest for tin or copper they regarded uraninite—an alternative name for the ore—as rubbish and consigned it to the waste heap.

“Never mind about that,” a mine captain once remarked to an employee who stopped to pick up a lovely stone as they were passing a mine dump on their way to the shaft.

The stone was resplendent with bright green, yellow, and brown flakes and crystals of uranium.

“That’s no good,” the captain continued, “Throw it away and let us get down below.”

Of course, they were on the traditional search for tin, and the captain just could not be bothered with anything other than Cornwall’s precious mineral, no matter how beautiful it looked. At another mine, a large block of this ore came in very handy as a doorstep!

It is said that the water at uranium mines is so radio-active as to equal, if not excel, the water at the famous mineral springs at Bath, and some of it has actually been dispensed as a cure for rheumatism!

The principal mines in which considerable seams of pitchblende have been found are Wheal Trenwith near St Ives, South Terras in the Fal Valley, and Wheal Owles, St Just. These mines were abandoned and became flooded many years ago, and it would mean the installation of modern machinery to work them again.

At other mines, too, from Tamar-side to Land’s End, deposits of uranium are known to exist; but it is doubtful whether their development would be worth while in view of the richer sources in Canada and elsewhere.

Anyway, in many parts of the Duchy, old miners may be seen busy searching amid the rubble of mine heaps, hopeful of finding evidence of uranium which the atomic bomb has suddenly brought into the limelight.

THE SPIRIT THAT WILL WIN THE PEACE

THE United States of America has many proud documents in her national archives and not the least eloquent of her noble spirit are the President's Reports to Congress on Lend-Lease. The latest, by President Truman, crowns them all.

This magnificently-planned report comes as an inspiration to a war-weary world. It sums up with a splendid impartiality the efforts of all the Free Nations from the very beginning of the war. It points the way in which all the nations—not America alone—must go for the attainment of that goal which the Atlantic Charter set up as the real objective of the United Nations.

All that President Roosevelt lived and died for is expressed in this report by his successor, who has inherited, too, much of his clear and forceful phrasing. President Truman is as determined as he that the full fruits of victory shall not be thrown away by a lack of will power to carry on into the winning of the peace that full co-operation which won the war.

His report covers all the transactions under Lend-Lease and Reverse Lend-Lease up to the end of June, and puts on record the spiritual and incalculable factors that really made victory possible as well as those material contributions that can be reckoned in dollars.

He lays the rightful emphasis on the former and stresses the truth, which most people now realise, that demands for the repayment of unproductive debts incurred by partners in a war would raise almost inseparable barriers to America's foreign trade. "The resulting desperate international commercial rivalry," he declared, "would threaten political stability and would help to sow the seeds of a new world conflagration. To win an enduring peace we must, in co-operation with other nations, establish mutually advantageous relationships between the nations."

"Food has been, and will remain for some time, a critical problem for the British Isles," continued Mr Truman, and he

explained how this country had halved her imports of food during the past three years, and from her depleted stocks supplied £17,000,000 worth of foodstuffs to American fighting men.

The total cost of the war to America had been £70,000,000,000 of which 85 per cent had been direct and 15 per cent Lend-Lease, the smaller percentage being as effective as the greater in promoting the defence of the United States. Mr Truman insisted, however, that the over-all costs of the war could not be measured in money. "They must be, and have been, met in blood and toil, in lives lost and men maimed, in the immeasurable wreckage of human lives and happiness, and the destruction of homes and cities."

But if money was to be the criterion, probably the best measurement was the proportion of its national income devoted to the war by each of the United Nations. Very unequal at first, after 1942 the relative cost to the U.S. and its principal allies was approximately equal.

The report gives very full details of the Reverse Lend-Lease contributions by the British Commonwealth, and cites the use of the Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth as carriers of American troops, the scientific development of Fido, which disperses fogs, Pluto, the oil pipeline, and radar.

"We'll cry quits," is the essence of President Truman's report on all the inter-allied relations up to VJ Day. And in a letter which accompanies the report he emphasises his country's good will for the future thus:

"The United States is assisting in the relief and reconstruction of the war-torn areas of our Allies and in the establishment of world trade on the high level necessary to ensure full and useful employment and production at home and abroad."

After the Victory

ON the morrow of the ceremony aboard the US battleship Missouri, where the Japanese signed the terms of unconditional surrender, and on the sixth anniversary of the outbreak of the World War, Mr Atlee broadcast to the British people:

It was the proud speech of an Englishman who has served his country in two world wars—in the first as a combatant, in the second as a Minister.

Here we place on record a few of the more memorable of the passages from his speech.

THE British Commonwealth of Nations has from start to finish been in the war and taken its full share in every continent. We may well be proud of the efforts of our men and women at home, in the Dominions, in India, and in the Colonies.

At no time, even when things were at their darkest, has there been any failure of resolution, any whimper in the face of loss.

It is true that in the course of it the darkness and destruction is illuminated by many examples of

magnificent courage and selfless devotion. It is true that in the course of it we have seen an unsurpassed exhibition of national unity. It is true that we have demonstrated to the world what is the strength of free peoples.

But against this we must set our terrible losses. We have lost many of the finest of our youth whom we can so ill spare.

We have a right to rejoice, but our triumph will be empty and short-lived if we do not take to heart the lessons which our suffering has taught us and the heavy responsibility that our victory entails.

This is no time for relaxation, tempting as this is after the years of strain. I recognise to the full how weary are those who have borne the labour and heat of the day, but in any race it is the last lap which counts, and before we can rest there is much to be done.

Over all the hardships or dangers the future may hold, by the co-operation of people and Government Britain will triumph.

A Boomerang For Japan

THE Japanese Fleet's treacherous attack on December 7, 1941, upon the US Fleet lying in Pearl Harbour has acted as a boomerang for its own destruction.

Ever since the Washington Conference of 1921 when, by international agreement, replacements of capital ships were limited to a ratio of five each for Britain and America and three for Japan, the Mikado's empire had planned for the day when the crippling blow would be struck.

The final act in the great sea drama came on September 2, 1945, when Japan signed a document of surrender on board the US battleship Missouri in Tokyo Bay.

Though the American Fleet at Pearl Harbour suffered a crippling blow, America's power of recovery was great, and she immediately set to work to create the mightiest fleet the world has ever known. Japan followed her felon blow by occupying strategic places throughout the Pacific, including Hong Kong, Singapore, and the Philippines. In the great struggle which followed and which lasted three and a half years, the ever-growing American Fleet, assisted in the final stages by the British Pacific Fleet, destroyed more than six-sevenths of the mighty armada with which Japan began her aggression. Only one of Japan's 12 battleships remained, and that was badly damaged.

International Armada

It was a proud day for the Allies, and for America in particular, when, late in August, a vast international armada of all classes of ships—aircraft carriers, battleships, cruisers, destroyers, minesweepers, transports, assault craft, and hospital ships—deployed off the coast of Japan. More than 80 per cent were American ships, the others being from Great Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the Netherlands. Flying above this mighty fleet, which covered hundreds of square miles of the Pacific, was a force of a thousand carrier-borne aircraft.

Meanwhile, similar scenes, though on a much smaller scale, were being prepared elsewhere in the Pacific and in the Indian Ocean. A British force sailed into Hong Kong, thus bringing to an end Japanese rule there; and two other British forces were deployed off Sumatra and Malaya, waiting for the final deed of surrender to be signed at Tokyo before taking over from the Japanese the great naval base of Singapore.

When Japan set out on her career of conquest she knew that sea-power would be the decisive factor. The recent scenes off the coasts of her very homeland must now convince her of the truth of this belief. The boomerang has come home—but out of control!

THE HOPPERS' FIRES

FOR the first time since 1938 the Kent hop districts are dotted, after dark, with flickering points of fire. The hop-pickers are making the best of their first chance to revive the old custom of singing round the bonfire. Many of the smaller children are enjoying real "hoppers' fires" for the first time.

WORLD NEWS REEL

LIEUT-COMMANDER OSCAR BADGER, US Navy, who 22 years ago went to Tokyo to organise relief supplies for the Japanese after the great earthquake of 1923, has recently returned there in charge of naval occupation arrangements under Admiral Halsey.

When British and American prisoners-of-war were liberated in the Far East some of them had not heard of the defeat of Germany or of the new Government in Britain.

Plant and equipment to produce one hundred million units of penicillin every month are being installed at the Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore in Southern India.

Shipments of food for Britain from South Africa, Canada, and Australia expected soon include 1,000,000 lbs of cheese and 5000 carcasses of beef from South Africa, and 2,750,000 dozen eggs from British Columbia.

An American conscientious objector, Warren G. Dugan, who stated he "firmly believed it was not Christian to fight and kill," and volunteered for dangerous work in medical research, has died of infantile paralysis while engaged on experimental work.

The Pope, addressing a US Congressional Mission recently, said: "Now is the time to fight a battle against the hate which opposes the brotherhood of man."

HOME NEWS REEL

BRITISH coalowners have announced that they place themselves at the disposal of the Government to help in working out the organisation for the public ownership of the mines.

German jet-propelled and rocket-propelled planes are to be exhibited in Hyde Park, London, from September 16-22, as part of London's Thanksgiving Week campaign for National Savings.

In the new House of Commons there will be 456 loudspeakers incorporated in the seating. There will be a periscope in the ceiling so that the control engineer can watch members and adjust the ventilation.

Britain's new fighter aircraft, Tempest II, is a low-wing, single-engined plane with a single fin and rudder. It has a Bristol Centaurus engine of over 2500 h.p. and its propeller has four blades.

A 14-year-old boy, James Soper, of Barking, was seriously injured when a bottle containing powder with which he and other boys were playing exploded violently.

Air Dispatch Ltd has prepared a scheme for an inner circle air service operating over London's Green Belt within 50 miles of the capital and to Paris, Brussels, and Le Touquet. Fares will be 2½d a mile in 34-seater Bristol Wayfarer planes.

YOUTH NEWS REEL

THE Scout Silver Cross has been awarded to 16-year-old Troop Leader Ian Ellis Baird, of the Newtonhill Group. Although just recovering from an attack of measles, Ian, on a winter's day, swam to the rescue of a boy who had fallen from a cliff.

The church parade in London of more than 2000 officers and boys of The Boys Brigade, arranged for Sunday, September 9, was the first parade on the famous Horse Guards Parade since before the war.

Fourteen counties were represented among over 300 Boy Scouts at a recent forestry and training camp at Lyndhurst, Hampshire. The Scouts helped with felling and trimming

The first British food train to reach Vienna took 450 tons of meat, flour, sugar, potatoes, and coffee.

Out of every 100 American sailors who were wounded in the war 97 survived.

A FREE flight to England will be given to Indian Army VCs to be decorated by the King, and 28 days' special leave after the investiture.

South Africa is buying from a British firm 52 trolley-buses which will cost £200,000.

The dry bed of a lake recently discovered in Central Australia is solid enough to walk on, but trembles like a jelly if jumped upon.

Japan surrendered to the US Navy recently, two submarines which are believed to be the largest in the world. The larger is 396 ft long, carries three planes, and has a crew of 191.

During the past two years 564,000 houses have been built in Russia, providing homes for 2,500,000 people.

To honour the memory of President Roosevelt, and to show their appreciation of his great work in securing their liberation, the Italian people have decided to establish a memorial school in Naples for orphaned children.

DURING the war 125,500 planes were produced in the U.K.

The British Road Federation have called for the abolition of car parks in streets.

Two new medals, the King's Medal for Courage in the Cause of Freedom, and the King's Medal for Service in the Cause of Freedom have been instituted. Both are intended for people of Allied or other foreign countries.

A SPECIAL service of thanksgiving for the Battle of Britain will be held in Westminster Abbey at 3 p.m. on September 16.

In the CN astronomer's article of September 1 Mercury's diameter was wrongly given as 300 miles; it is, of course, 3000 miles.

The British Press submitted 665,500 "stories" totalling 183 million words to the censor during the war.

THE first Amy Johnson Scholarship has been awarded by the Society of British Aircraft Constructors to Dorothy Gwynne, aged 18, of Coventry.

Under the Children's Free Telegrams scheme, started by Cable and Wireless Ltd in 1940 for the benefit of British children evacuated overseas, 146,500 telegrams were exchanged between the children and their parents.

timber, clearing sites for replanting, and trimming smaller trees to admit light and air.

Out of Denmark's population of fewer than four millions, 30,000 are active Scouts and Guides. During the German occupation Scouting was forbidden, of course, but the Danish Scouts and Guides carried on in secret.

A special team of Scouts is to tour Northamptonshire to help isolated Patrols and Troops. The "flying wing" will carry its own equipment, such as ropes, flags, and so on, for demonstration.

Norfolk Sea Scouts have been granted the use of Decoy Broad, Woodbastwick, for boating and camping.

FOR EVER AMERICA

AMID the stately serenity of the chestnut trees which line the famous avenue in Bushey Park, near Hampton Court, is a little spot which will be for ever America.

Near the Teddington entrance to this beautiful royal park, a memorial has been erected bearing the inscription: "This tablet marks the site of the European headquarters of the U.S.A.A.F., July, 1942—December, 1944. Dedicated by the Royal Air Force to their comrades-in-arms."

Sir Arthur Harris of Bomber Command fame, and General Baker, of the U.S. Strategic Air Forces in Europe, were present at the unveiling ceremony.

THE KIWI ON THE PLAIN

AFTER the 1914-18 war had ended New Zealand troops at Bulford Camp on Salisbury Plain, carved a Kiwi memorial 420 feet long in the chalk hills. As a security measure the carving was camouflaged in 1939. The kiwi has now made its appearance again, cleaner and more sharply defined.

BOYS AS BUILDERS

SOME time ago the Building Apprenticeship and Training Council, of which Sir Malcolm Trustram Eve is the chairman, recommended to the Government an apprentice master scheme designed to speed up the recruitment of apprentices for the building industry.

The fruits of this scheme have now become evident at Chatham, where Mr George Tomlinson, Minister of Works, has laid a commemorative stone in a nursery school block which is being built by boys for the Kent education authority, under the direction of an apprentice master.

It is understood that other boys are to build eight houses on a site near the new school.



Pleasure boats made from old aeroplane petrol tanks



Happy young Londoners off for the day to glorious Burnham Beeches

BUNYAN'S BIBLE

A BIBLE which may have been used by John Bunyan when writing his Pilgrim's Progress in Bedford Gaol has recently been discovered in Adelaide, South Australia. The Bible bears the date 1664, which was during Bunyan's 12 years of imprisonment, and also his signature. This adds greatly to its value, for there are only about 12 existing signatures of the great writer. It has been suggested that if put up for auction in America this Bible would realise as much as £3000.

ATS DESERT RAT

THE only girl allowed to wear the famous Desert Rats insignia is Corporal Pamela Marsh of the ATS.

She is a Warwickshire girl who joined the service three years ago, served with Shaef in Versailles, Rheims, and Frankfurt, and was later posted with the occupation forces in Berlin. There she was attached, for secretarial duties, to the staff of Major-General Lyne, divisional commander of the Desert Rats and GOC of troops in the German capital. By order of the GOC Corporal Marsh now wears the badge bearing the red rat.

A HELPING BEAK

AN example of an unusual friendship comes from away down in the South Island of New Zealand. There at the lovely lakeside township of Queenstown, a spaniel, Gyp, and a parrot, Cockey, have become firm friends. When Gyp returns from hunting expeditions on Ben Lomond, he is invariably covered with biddy-bids (burrs) which cling to his long silky coat. Then Cockey sets to work taking off the biddy-bids, one by one, from his friend's coat, while Gyp usually sleeps contentedly.

CANAL REVIVAL

ORDERS are being placed for 100-ton barges and for small motor-tugs each capable of towing hundreds of tons of goods for use on the canals of North-West England.

In addition, extensive plans are in hand for the substitution of lifts for locks and for the electrification of lock gear, capstans, and movable bridges. The possibilities of widening certain canals is also being explored.

Already limited rights have been secured by the Trustees of the Weaver Navigation over the waters of the River Weaver to Nantwich. Powers may eventually be sought to extend full navigation to link up with the Shropshire Union Canal, and thus provide a direct link between industrial Lancashire and the Midlands.

CONVERSATION PIECE

A QUIET little family game of cricket was in progress on a South Australian beach when a gentleman strolled over and asked the father if his little boy could join in the fun. The father extended a hearty welcome, and while the game went on the two began to talk.

"You're an Englishman, aren't you?" asked the father.

"Yes," was the reply.

"How long have you been in South Australia?"

"Three days."

"Got a house yet?"

"Yes, a very nice one."

"Goodness, how did you wangle it?"

The Englishman could have explained that no "wangling" was required. He was Sir Willoughby Norrie, the new State Governor.

SCOTLAND IN TECHNICOLOR

TWO films in technicolor are to be made in Scotland with the object of attracting tourists, one of the cities and the other of the countryside.

The films will feature the beauty spots and historical places of Scotland as well as corners associated with such famous Scots as Robert Burns, Graham Bell, J. M. Barrie, Andrew Carnegie, and R. L. Stevenson. Glimpses of Glasgow, Edinburgh, Perth, Inverness, and Aberdeen will figure in the cities film.

These films will be shown in many countries after the dialogue has been translated into the appropriate languages.

AN APPROPRIATE WAR MEMORIAL

ONE of the best kind of war memorials of which we have learned is The Allied Forces Animals' War Memorial, founded by that great institution the PDSA (People's Dispensary for Sick Animals of the Poor).

The deeds of animal and bird during the war are too well-known to be overlooked, and the memorial is dedicated to those which served in silence and suffering. The memorial takes the form of a Fund which is being established to provide more mobile dispensaries (those PDSA vehicles we know so well)—in gratitude to the dumb friends.

We feel sure our readers will appreciate this form of memorial, and those who wish to send a small donation to the Fund should send it to The Secretary, Allied Forces Mascot Club, 14 Clifford Street, London, W1.

A NEW STAR

THE Swedish astronomer Dr Nils Tamm has just discovered a new star 2000 light-years from the Earth—roughly eleven thousand seven hundred and fifty-two million million miles away, and this has been confirmed by his colleague Professor Linblad. The new star is 10,000 times greater than the Sun.

A suggested name for it is Nova Tamm Aquilae, incorporating the name of its discoverer and the constellation of the Eagle's image in which it was found. In 1936 Dr Tamm discovered two other stars.

THE CHURCHILL WAY

SINCE his return from Great Britain the New Zealand Leader of the Opposition, Mr S. G. Holland, has had many tales to tell. One concerns the homeliness of Mr Churchill, displayed particularly during a lunch at Chequers. A large dish of asparagus was brought in and proffered to Mr Holland. After a rapid calculation of the number of asparagus sticks and the number of guests, he took two pieces. The dish was then passed to Mr Churchill who took about eight sticks—and promptly set them down on Mr Holland's plate!

SUPER-MICROSCOPE

ACCORDING to an American radar expert scientists studying the use of the atom will soon have at their disposal a super-microscope capable of magnifying objects 100,000 times.

To illustrate the power of this instrument, he said that if the whole of a sixpence could be viewed through it, it would measure five miles across, and a human hair would look like a huge tree.

NECESSARY JOURNEY

THE South India railways have given one of their tourist cars for conversion into a travelling blood-bank for the Army Transfusion Service. In one of the compartments nearly 500 pints of life blood can be kept ready for immediate use, in an even temperature maintained by a refrigerating system which defeats the intense Indian heat. In another compartment the Medical Officer makes his home, and in yet another is a tiny laboratory and store.

The transformation of the railway carriage has been made from beginning to end by an engineering firm in India. Army Medical Officers who inspected the new unit before taking over praised the ingenuity as well as the good will of the scheme.

THE FLAG

WHEN Singapore capitulated in February, 1942, Sir Shenton Thomas, Governor of the Straits Settlements, hid the Union Jack which had flown over the Fortress, for he was sure it would be needed again, black as the outlook for the Allies was at that time.

Now his splendid faith of those dark days has been vindicated. He has been liberated and during the years of his captivity the hidden flag was never found by the Japanese. Once again it can fly bravely over recaptured Singapore.

MORE GOLDEN EAGLES

AT one time golden eagles had become almost extinct in the Highlands, but, perhaps owing to the comparative immunity they have enjoyed during the years of war, they are now on the increase.

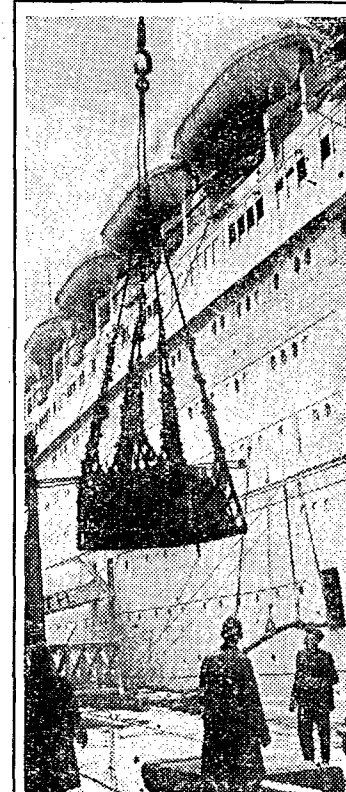
In recent days as many as three of these huge birds of prey have been seen at one time in a district in the Highlands. A pair of eagles were also reported a few weeks ago as far south as the Stirlingshire lowlands, something which has not happened for many years.

BAMBI IN DISGRACE

ONE of the favourites of the Children's Zoo is Bambi the Goat, often to be seen wearing a blue cap marked Overseer. She quickly became a favourite when arriving at the Zoo about three months ago, and her amusing habits earned her the freedom of the enclosure.

But the incorrigible Bambi, having an inch took the proverbial ell and escaped through the turnstiles several times. Her last escapade led to her undoing, for she decided to eat a lot of Indian Corn before going to sleep in the bed of plants—and so was arrested.

Bambi has been sentenced to Tetherment For Life!



Loading stores on to the Queen Elizabeth at Southampton

September 15, 1945

The Children's



Battlefields of Peace

The friendly tussles of football are in full swing again. These players have been snapped at the critical moment of their struggle for possession of the ball.

THE NEVER-NEVER BOFFIN

THE Boffins have emerged from hiding and gone their way. They were the scientists, secretly working at Malvern and Farnborough, who wrought such marvels with radar, and their quaint name was playfully bestowed on them by the Services. Now, their work triumphantly ended, they remain only a name.

But was their name solely theirs? There have been earlier Boffins. One is Nicodemus Boffin, a delightful old character in Dickens's *Our Mutual Friend*. Another, temporarily very famous half a century ago, was a Boffin who, though seemingly aggressively alive, actually never lived. The name was created in a flash of merry fancy by that witty scholar-statesman, Augustine Birrell, who, as a peg to hang an argument on in the course of a political article, popped in the name of an imaginary Revd Tobias Boffin, B.A.

Forthwith the Revd Tobias Boffin, B.A., appeared to start into vigorous life, always pur-

suing Mr Birrell. Indignant notes and postcards bearing his signature began to fly. Fictitious paragraphs naming him appeared in the Press. One pretended that he was present at the secret councils of the Liberal Party; another represented him as sternly denouncing Mr Birrell at a great political meeting in Yorkshire. Later he was declared to be about to visit Mr Birrell, the notification being accompanied by a fierce little poem and a deliciously funny drawing.

Finally, a book appeared, teeming with pictures, describing the adventures of this angry Revd. Tobias Boffin, B.A., and then the secret was out. It was all the work of that prince of jesters and amateur artists, Sir Frank Lockwood, sometime Solicitor General, whose life Birrell was later to write, and there tell the whole story of this never-never Boffin who came to life only on paper. He was an elusive diverting myth: the latter-day Boffins were wondermen and real!

A Guide to Our New Education System

THE Education Act of 1944, the Children's Charter as the C.N. has called it, will change the whole aspect of education in England and Wales, and the sort of schools to which we have grown accustomed will in many cases become obsolete as soon as there are sufficient teachers and school buildings to enable the new system to operate. What the new schools will be like and how they will work is all clearly described in *A Guide to the Educational System of England and Wales*, issued by the Ministry of Education (Stationery Office, one shilling).

In this excellent pamphlet the new system is explained against the background of the old—for

in grasping the new arrangements it is essential to understand how they have evolved from the former system. Every stage in education from the nursery to the University is described in the booklet. There is a clear explanation of the status and training of teachers, the working of school medical services, adult education, and every other matter affecting those who will attend, and those who will direct, our schools in the immediate future. An interesting appendix gives a brief history of education in England.

This is a book that, all connected with the vital business of educating and getting educated will want to possess and study.

Freedom For Monty—and Londonderry

ON Saturday Field-Marshal Montgomery is to receive the Freedom of Londonderry, the ceremony taking place at one of the most famous spots in Irish history—the Derry Walls.

When James II was trying to assert his right to rule, Londonderry proved loyal to William III, despite the activities of one who would now be termed a collaborationist. The acting Governor of Londonderry was Robert Lundy, who declared himself in agreement with the cause of William when the populace acclaimed him as the rightful king. Yet, when James's army was nearing Londonderry, Lundy did much to paralyse the city defences and constantly placed obstacles in the way of organised resistance. In April, 1689, Lundy was prepared to surrender and sent word to James that he would do so at the first summons. But the citizens were opposed to this treacherous course and their wishes were championed by a 70-year-old clergyman, George Walker.

Lundy was deposed and a joint governorship assumed by Walker and Major Henry Baker, and they, with the help of a good soldier, Captain Adam Murray, organised the defences.

On the 18th of April James's troops reached the city, ready to receive its surrender, but received instead a hail of bullets. They laid siege to the city, but for 105 days were kept at bay. By that time the besieged citizens and soldiers were in a sorry plight and depressed; but Walker, who had never forgotten his duties as a clergyman, preached a great sermon which inspired the defenders to make a final stand.

A few hours later they were welcoming relieving troops. William's soldiers, led by the fierce General Kirke, had smashed through the booms, sailed into the port, and put James's men to flight.

Walker's great work was recognised and he came to England, where he was publicly acclaimed. Next year, when William went to Ireland, Walker joined him and was present at the Battle of the Boyne. There, going to the aid of a wounded comrade, Walker was struck by a bullet and died almost immediately.

Old George Walker is honoured in Londonderry, which erected a triumphal arch to his memory. Another hero will be there on Saturday, and we are confident that, as he stands on the platform erected on the city walls, Monty, who has done so much to preserve the freedom of us all, will spare a thought for Walker, the man who kept the Freedom of Londonderry.

A MONSTER CATCH

THE pike is a great fighter, and an incident which illustrates this happened at Chelmsford, where two boys struggled with a monster for 15 minutes. Not until one of the boys waded out to the fish and stunned it with a stick did the battle end.

The pike was caught on a small rod and line in a river that flows through a recreation ground. Measuring 2 feet long and weighing 5½ pounds, it was the biggest pike caught in the river for 20 years.

THE EDITOR'S TABLE

The Gist of It

IN their comments on the ending of Lend-Lease American public men and newspapers paid many handsome tributes to the British. This phrase in the New York Times was, we think, the most eloquent of them all:

Lend-Lease was never something for nothing; it was guns and planes in exchange for brave men who would use them in defence of our freedom.

THE MODEL

SPEAKING in London recently, Mr Christmas Moeller, the Danish Foreign Minister, said:

"The British Commonwealth of Nations is the model of the United Nations. The cohesion, concord, and strength shown by the Commonwealth during the war, which now after victory has been won has been confirmed, proves that the difficulties which we all knew would have to come will be overcome."

Unity is strength in peace as in war, and if the United Nations will show that same cohesion the world will yet be as a large and happy family.

Warming News

ONE of the blackest spots in the outlook for the coming winter has been dissipated, happily, by the pledge of the Joint National Negotiating Committee of the Coal Industry, which says:

"This Committee—representing both sides of the industry—endorses to the full the appeal of the Minister of Fuel and Power for the maximum possible output of coal to mitigate hardships during the coming winter."

JUST AN IDEA

Life happiness is not built up of big events, but of the endless chain of little, simple everyday joys.

CARRY ON

TOMMY

THE British soldier, supposed to represent physical force only, is a great moral force within and without the empire. It is not with physical weapons only, nor even chiefly, that he contends all the world over for the honour in the highest sense, of his Regiment, of the Army, and of the Nation. And he prevails because he makes some conscience of what he does. He knows what he is fighting for and loves what he knows.

Sir John Fortescue

Be Ready

IN life's small things be resolute and great
To keep thy muscle trained: knowest thou when Fate
Thy measure takes, or when she'll say to thee
'I find thee worthy, do this deed for me?' *James Russell Lowell*

THE GREAT

THE great machine of war production, which has run for so long and at an ever-increasing tempo, is now to slow down.

Within the next few weeks a million workers will be released from factories concerned with war production, and more will follow. In the meantime 45,000 employers have received a letter from the Government giving advice on how to proceed with this great unwinding of the machine before it can be rewound to produce the goods of peace.

Side by side with the release of workers from the factories, men and women will be demobilised from the Forces. Both

Large Sheet,

ONE of B-P's secretaries, Mrs E. K. Wade, has been telling this story about her late chief.

When the Founder of Scouting wanted to put down any new idea in writing or drawing he asked her to hand him a special sheet of paper which would sometimes measure two feet each way.

In the centre of this B-P would put down a single word, phrase, or heading, or a small sketch, leaving the spacious

Under the E

THE population of Japan is the densest of any industrial nation. But the Allies can see through them.

THE small business man is the backbone of America. But he has hopes of coming to the front.

A WRITER makes the statement that the teapot is the symbol of fireside content. There is something in it.

A MAN says he does not like people to take his arm. Can't spare it.

PETER

WANT

KNOW



If tips help people to make en

Blest Are

BLEST are the hands that wipe away a tear
From some child's face, in loneliness or fear,
Or smooth a brow, where pain has left its mark
Through bitter suffering or a broken heart.

Blest are the eyes, whose understanding gaze
Can read the sorrow on another's face;

THE LORD

O LORD, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all: the earth is full of Thy riches.

So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts:

There go the ships: there is that leviathan, whom Thou hast made to play therein.

These wait all upon Thee;

CHANGEOVER

from the factories and the Forces there will be many women who will not wish to re-enter industry, and from the factories there will be many young men who will have to join the Forces.

But even so this changing over of man-power, machinery, and materials from war to peace is a stupendous operation, less spectacular than the preparations for D Day, perhaps, but of even greater significance for the future. It will call for co-operation in the highest degree between employees, employers, and the Government. But, with goodwill all round, the result should be equally successful.

Large Ideas

surround free for additions. The page was by no means always filled, but space was there in case he wanted to expand his idea on a larger scale. It was one of this great man's theories that if he used a small sheet his ideas would be correspondingly "niggling."

So now we know of something that contributed in part to the broad and lasting ideas of this great-hearted leader.

Editor's Table

PUCK'S TO HOUSEWIVES can help the fuel situation by economy. They are burning to help.

ARE girls harder to bring up than boys? Not if you have a lift.

A CERTAIN General is said to have the shoulders of an athlete. Wonder how the athlete manages without them.

AMERICAN forces on the Continent will draw no more on British stocks of petrol. They can get 'em meet paper now.

the Hands

Unspoken words to someone may convey a wealth of meaning, more than lips could say.

Blest is the heart, that through some kindly deed Shall ease the burden of a soul in need, Thrice blessed is he, whose deep compassion flows Like rolling rivers, after melting snows. *Monica Bourne*

'S WORK.

that Thou mayest give them their meat in due season.

That Thou givest them they gather: Thou openest Thine hand, they are filled with good.

Thou hidest Thy face, they are troubled: Thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust.

Thou sendest forth Thy spirit, they are created: and Thou renewest the face of the earth. *Psalm 104*

A Welcome Innovation

THE publicity given to the recent address by Sir Stafford Cripps to his staff of the Board of Trade assembled at Westminster Central Hall was, we believe, a new idea in Government circles. It is innovations of this character that promote public confidence, for the officials of Whitehall are men whose work is at all times vital to the national well-being.

Our speedy recovery as a commercial nation largely depends on the Board of Trade.

THE NEW ORDER

THE new era upon which the world is now entering is happily symbolised by a small action of President Truman.

When Mr Truman took office as President he noticed on the desk of his private room at the White House the model of a gun. He has now replaced the gun with the model of a plough—a constant reminder that all planning now is for peace.

A Prayer For Battle of Britain Sunday

WE give thee thanks, Almighty Father, for all thy goodness to us and especially for the protection that thou has vouchsafed to us in time of war; we thank thee for the courage of all who have guarded this land from the peril of invasion, for the endurance and skill of the men of the Royal Air Force and of all the men and women who at their several posts have helped to repel attack from the air, for the bravery of all engaged in the various tasks of Civil Defence, for the devotion to duty of those who laboured in factories and workshops or who ministered to the injured and the homeless; and we pray thee that we may be worthy of the blessings of victory and peace, and may show forth our thanks to thee by serving thee more faithfully in thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

TREASURE HOUSE

THE Bible is a treasure. It contains enough to make us rich for time and eternity. It contains the secret of happy living. It contains the key of heaven. It contains the title-deeds of an inheritance incorruptible and that fadeth not away. It contains the pearl of great price. Nay, in so far as it reveals them as the portion of us sinful worms, it contains the Saviour and the living God Himself. *James Hamilton*

Autumn Fruits

SEASON of mists and mellow fruitfulness
Close-bosomed friend of the maturing sun,
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves run,
To bend with apples the mossed cottage-tree,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core. *Keats*

Great Artist, Modest Soul

THE National Gallery has acquired a new treasure for £10,000. It is a picture by Nicolas Poussin, the painter who founded the French school of classic landscape later developed by the equally famous Claude Lorrain.

The new acquisition, The Worship of the Golden Calf, is an outstanding example of Poussin's genius in a different field, that of historical and Biblical subjects. It was this genius which led to the young French painter being asked to return to Paris, for Poussin, not too well treated at home, had gone to Rome in 1624 at the age of 30 and stayed there for sixteen years. In Paris Poussin became Court Painter to Louis XIII and also had the patronage of Cardinal Richelieu. He painted many pictures for the Royal chapels and for the Louvre, which today houses the finest collection of his paintings and drawings.

An Unspoiled Genius

But Poussin was never spoiled by success or high favour. He lived simply and sometimes returned money to clients who had paid him, as he thought, too much for a piece of work.

Poussin was not very happy in France, despite the Royal favour and the even more important favour of Richelieu. Upset by jealousy and intrigues, he returned to Rome in 1643, and his genuine admirers in France had to send to him in Italy for work they wished him to do. He lived till he was 71, always learning, never feeling he knew enough, always modest and generous.

This scholarly outlook, combined with native genius, made Nicolas Poussin a classic painter in the fullest sense. Not only is there supreme mastery in his backgrounds, but the smallest figures show a detailed care and joy which are the delight of all lovers of art.

THE MENACE OF THE TSETSE

A PARTY of Rhodesian and South African scientists are visiting Portuguese East Africa south of the Sabi River to study the drift southwards of the dreaded bushveld tsetse, *Glossina morsitans*, which spreads sleeping sickness among human beings and fly sickness among livestock.

For some time this pest has been spreading from Portuguese territory into the Transvaal and Natal. Last year the Southern Rhodesian Government, in an effort to stop the spread of the disease into the ranching country of the Sabi and Lundi rivers, destroyed all game north and west of these areas. Big game act as carriers of the dreaded tsetse fly, and their destruction is the only measure advocated by science to make cattle-breeding safe in infested areas.

Once the tsetse fly crosses the Transvaal border and invades the Kruger National Park, it will be impossible to save the cattle of the Union without shooting the game in the world's greatest wild life sanctuary.

YESTERDAY IN SINGAPORE

The mighty naval base at Singapore is again in British hands. A correspondent has sent us these memories of that fascinating seaport.

WHEN I gazed at the statue of Sir Stamford Raffles looking out across the harbour in Singapore, I recalled how it was due to his persistence and foresight that the island was ceded to the British Government by the Sultan of Johore in 1824.

Besides being a great naval base, Singapore was the second port of world trade, and 13,000 vessels used the harbour and docks every year. It was also the port of call for ships bound to and from the Far East.

The harbour was always crowded with shipping of many nationalities; frequent salutes announced the arrival or departure of a warship, or the welcome arrival of the English mail. Mingling with modern vessels were the picturesque native craft, Chinese junks with red or yellow sails, lighters with heavy thatched roofs, and sampans, rowed with crossed oars. Ever-tolling Chinese boatmen, in big pointed hats, propelled the boats with oar and pole under the bridges and through the crowded waterway.

On shore the crowd was truly cosmopolitan. There were Dutch from the Dutch East Indies, French folk from Saigon, Arabs, Parsees, Burmese, Javanese, Siamese, Malays, Tamils, Sikhs, and the always disliked Japanese.

Normally some 14,000 Europeans lived in Singapore, but the Chinese predominated.

Industrious Chinese

The development of the Straits Settlements owed much to the industrious Chinese. They formed the staffs of hotels and houses and offices, drew the rickshaws and performed many other useful tasks. Many prospered and rose from humble rank to be owners of the biggest businesses, and the finest houses and gardens. In philanthropy, too, they played a prominent part.

Though the climate is hot and moist all the year round, frequent rain and thunderstorms cool the air. The residents declared the climate to be healthy, and they took plenty of exercise to keep fit. Good cricket and football were played on the sports ground. Even the indolent Malays took kindly to football, kicking the ball with bare feet. Vigorous tennis, too, was played on grass

lawns. Life was cheerful enough in those days between the wars, there was dancing at Government House, the Tanglin Club, and at all the big hotels. Several good picture-houses existed, and there were occasional dramatic performances.

Motoring was a pleasure on the smooth red roads. Rickshaws were used for short distances, while a quaint carriage, that plied for hire, was the "craytah," drawn by spirited pie-bald ponies and driven by a Malay in scarlet sarong and solar topee.

Street Scenes

A striking feature of the streets was the outdoor restaurant, where roast pork and duck were hung up for sale and cooked in the open on portable ovens.

The fruit and sweet stalls were prettily arranged and lit up at night with tiny star-shaped acetylene lamps. Piles of pineapples peeled and sliced, dried apples, plums, and bananas were strung on sticks for sale.

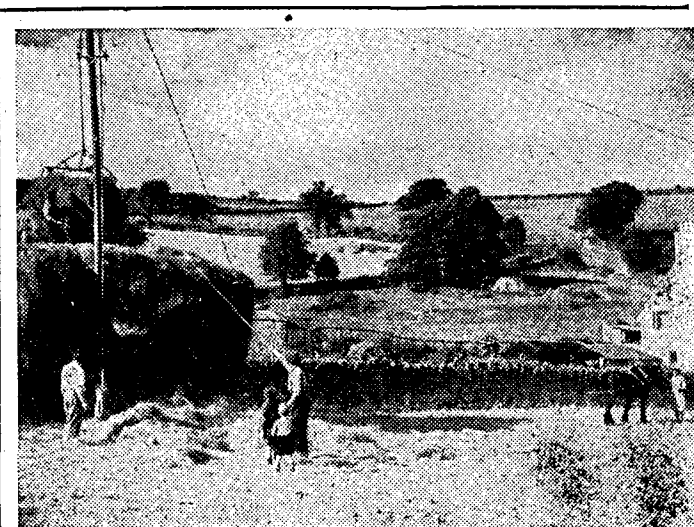
A hawker ran along, his wares balanced on a pole across his shoulder, clacking a rattle. Then he stopped, set up his food stall, with glowing brazier and iron kettle, and was soon dispensing cups of tea.

Wedding and funeral processions passed often through the streets; the latter nearly as gay as the former.

Many complex pictures passed before us. Chinese ladies taking rickshaw rides in the evening, dressed in severe dark coat and trousers, their dark hair dressed with flowers. They leant back nonchalantly, smoking cigarettes, their feet resting on bright-coloured mats.

After dark the flower-sellers came round with baskets of pink rosebuds laid on moss and fern, and sweet-scented white tuberose. They pushed their wares up on the high veranda where hotel guests readily bought them.

To me Singapore seemed never to sleep, the moon rose and set, the Southern Cross swung low in the sky, yet still the sound of motor-horns was heard, and voices raised in shout and song. After the great heat of the day the population, European and native, seemed to wake with the cooling air of night.



THIS ENGLAND Building a haystack by a new method at Bovey Tracey in Devon

The Sailors and the Orphans

The fierce fighting in which Russia's armies were engaged has inevitably meant that large numbers of children have become orphans. In this dispatch from Russia a correspondent tells us something of the good work of sailors of the Black Sea Fleet in caring for these unfortunate children.

A good many letters among the thousands that the Black Sea Fleet receive every day are written by orphans who are living in children's homes sponsored by the Black Sea sailors.

These sailors have made themselves responsible for 32 children's homes located in various parts of the country. Last year 500,000 roubles contributed by sailors went towards the purchase of shoes and clothing for children whose fathers had been killed at the front or murdered by the Germans on Soviet territories, and in the first five months of this year the sailors collected about a million roubles.

It was the crew of the destroyer Sochrazitelny who took the first steps—they sponsored a children's home in Kokand, Uzbekistan. Their first collection came to about 30,000 roubles, and for this they received a telegram of greetings and thanks from Stalin.

Their example was followed by others. Submarine crews promptly collected 40,000 roubles, sailors of a trawler 19,000 roubles. The crew of the battleship Molotov turned over 31,000 roubles to a children's home in the city of Lipetsk, in the Voronezh region, and assumed sponsorship of the home.

But their activities are not confined to monetary contributions. They also maintain a regular correspondence with the youngsters, telling them about their life in the navy, and in turn get their charges to say

what they are doing. In this way the children feel they really belong to somebody.

The following letter, which I was shown on board one of the Black Sea Fleet destroyers, is typical:

"We are very much touched by your interest in us" (the children received holiday gifts from the sailors) . . . "although we have lost our dear ones we feel we are not alone . . . our country and you, our dear sailor friends, are concerned in our welfare . . . We promise to finish the school year with good marks. Write to us more often. We shall always look upon you as our dearest and closest friends."

There was something extremely touching, too, in the way the sailors pored over the childish scrawl and compared the school marks their different little friends had received. Many have even officially adopted some of the children.

I met naval officer Vasili Gorshkov at the Lieutenant Schmidt Naval House in Sebastopol. His family perished during a German air raid. He has now adopted two orphans from a children's home.

"They are studying now," he said, "and as soon as they finish school I am going to send them to relatives of mine. I'll go on leave soon, and I've decided to visit my two little boys, Vitya and Tolya. What fine youngsters they are, too!"

The snapshot he showed me of the two boys proved how right he was.

SHOWERS OF NEWSPAPERS

It has just been revealed how the defeat of the Nazi armies in France last year was helped by the Allies dropping newspapers printed in German over the enemy troops, who thus read the truth for the first time in the war. The newspaper was called Nachrichten für der Truppe (News for the Troops), and it was dropped over the Germans by means of special bombs, each containing ten thousand copies, which exploded one thousand feet up and scattered the papers. On D Day one million copies of the paper thus gave the German soldiers an authentic account of what was happening.

The newspaper promised the Germans that, contrary to what they had been told by the Nazis, they would be well treated if they became prisoners-of-war, and many were led to surrender.

One of the remarkable features of this "airborne newspaper," as it has been called, was that it was printed in the works of an old-established country weekly paper, founded in 1855, the Luton News, at Luton. Not very far away, at Cheddington, Bucks, an airfield was entirely given over to the planes carrying the newspaper bombs. Squadrons of Lancasters, Mosquitoes, Liberators, and Fortresses acted as "newboys" in all weathers and delivered to the Germans their copies of a paper showing them for the first time the war from the world point of view.

After the Allies had crossed the Rhine an additional paper called Shaef, printed in French, Polish, and Russian, was dropped to inform prisoners-of-war and displaced persons where they should go.

This unique Allied organisation was a work of mercy, for it undoubtedly saved many lives—both Allied and German.

The New League Starts Work

THE permanent staff of the new World League, the United Nations, has come into being. It consists of 14 diplomats who have been working at Church House, Westminster. They are the Executive Committee appointed by the United Nations at San Francisco.

Their task—vital to the future of humanity—is to establish the working machinery of the United Nations as a new World League. It was described by Mr Noel-Baker, Minister of State, who is the British delegate, as "bringing into being an international Civil Service wholly dedicated to the service of the United Nations." "We must see to it," he said, "that men and women in every country are kept in touch with our work."

One of their problems is to choose a permanent Headquarters for the United Nations. Possibly London may be chosen, but other places, among them Geneva, South Dakota, and San Francisco, the city which saw the birth of the United Nations Organisation, have been suggested.

Men of good will everywhere will pray for the success of their work, for on it the future of civilisation depends.

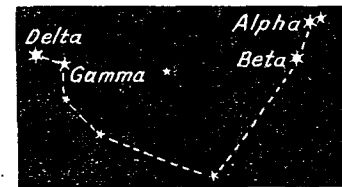
**At the kerb, halt.
Eyes right, eyes left.
If all clear, quick march!**

The Celestial Sea-Goat

In his talk this week on Capricornus the C N Astronomer has something to tell us of a strange inconsistency in the precise science of Astronomy.

CAPRICORNUS, the Sea-Goat, is one of the most interesting and famous of the "watery" constellations referred to in the article on Delphinus in the C N of August 4. The stars of the Sea-Goat will be found due south of Delphinus; they extend over a wide stretch of the southern sky.

Capricornus is one of the twelve constellations of the Zodiac and was the one through which the Sun passed in mid-winter and therefore the most southerly of them all. From this circumstance we derive the Tropic



The chief stars of Capricornus the Sea-Goat

of Capricorn, owing to the Sun being overhead in those terrestrial latitudes when at the most southerly portion of his apparent path through the sky, a path which is known as the Ecliptic. But this was the Sun's apparent position at mid-winter about 2000 years ago.

Nowadays the Sun is in Sagittarius when at the most southerly section of his path at mid-winter, and so it should be called the Tropic of Sagittarius instead of Capricorn. Yet by a strange inconsistency in such a precise science as Astronomy, the title Tropic of Capricorn has remained through all these centuries. However, something will have to be done to remove this anomaly during the next 12,000 years, for by that time the so-called Tropic of Capricorn will be where the so-called Tropic of Cancer is now and the Zodiac have become all topsy-turvy. On the other hand, having waited so long, if we wait yet another 12,000 years the Sun will be back in Capricornus at mid-winter. The trouble arises from the axis of the Earth gradually changing its tilt relative to the stars. This is known as the Precession of the Equinoxes.

The chief stars of this Sea-Goat are indicated on the accompany-

ing star-map. They appear not far from the horizon and are due south between 9 and 10 o'clock. The leading star Alpha will make identification certain, for even with the naked eye it will be seen, to be composed of two stars. These are known as Alpha 1 and Alpha 2, also by the ancient names of Prima Giedi and Secunda Giedi. They are revealed splendidly through glasses to be a twin-system of two suns at a distance of about 251 light-years from us, but at an immense distance apart.

Beta in Capricornus is a multiple-sun system composed of four suns, two of which may be easily seen through ordinary field-glasses. These suns are at a distance of 84 light-years from us. The larger yellowish star, which is about 2½ magnitude and apparently the brightest in the constellation, is composed of two suns which together radiate about 30 times more light and heat than our Sun. The smaller of these, which is revealed spectroscopically, revolves round the larger as a great fiery planet once in 3 years and 283 days, at a speed averaging about 14 miles a second, the distance separating them averaging 239 million miles.

A World in the Making

The smaller of the two stars visible through the glasses is of only 6th magnitude, and is a sun radiating only about twice as much light as our Sun. This also has a planetary companion sun which radiates only about one-twentieth as much light as our Sun; it therefore appears to be a world in the making.

Gamma in Capricornus, also known by its ancient name Nashira, appears far away to the left in the fish-like Tail of this imaginary Sea-Goat. It is a sun comparable with the brightest in Beta, but at a distance of 192 light-years journey. Delta in Capricornus is composed of two suns which together radiate about 13 times more light than our Sun; they are about 50 light-years distant from us, but are little more than a million miles apart and whirl round in their orbits in little more than a day at a speed of some 40 miles a second.

G. F. M.

BEDTIME

THE FARMER'S CROPS

OATS and beans and barley grow!

Do you, or I, or anyone know How oats and beans and barley grow?

First the farmer sows his seeds, Then he stands and takes his ease,

Stamps his foot, and claps his hands,

Then turns round to view his lands.

THE LAST HOLIDAY BATHE



CORNER

The Spider and The Swallow

A SPIDER who saw a swallow catching flies, was very cross because she thought the bird was invading her rights. So she set to work to make a web that would catch swallows.

Of course, the web was too weak for this, and before long a swallow broke the web and flew away with it.

"I see that catching swallows is too much for me," said the spider, "and in trying to do it I have lost my web. In future I will confine my energies to trapping flies."

Do not attempt what is beyond your strength.

From Queen Elizabeth's Prayer Book

GIVE meat to the hungry and drink to the thirsty; comfort the sorrowful; cheer the dismayed, and strengthen the weak; deliver the oppressed and give hope and courage to them that are out of heart.

Amen

WHEN THE WAR NEWS CAME SLOWLY

SOME friendly hand will, we trust, lay a laurel, on September 12, before the Melton Prior memorial in the crypt of St Paul's Cathedral. For the day marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of that prince of old-time war correspondents, who sketched and wrote the histories of the battles and revolutions that disturbed the peace of the world during a third of a century.

Melton Prior first took the field as artist and correspondent in the Ashanti war of 1873; he finally laid down brush and pen at the close of the Russo-Japanese war that ended, in 1905, in a Russian humiliation that he, accompanying the Japanese army, could never have expected to be reversed as it has been this year.

Prior's career brings sharply to mind the bewildering advance that has been made in the work of war correspondents since his day. The son of an artist, he began his course with sketches at half-a-crown each. Gaining employment with The Illustrated London News, and having been chosen, when no one else would go, to cover that Ashanti war, he quitted himself so ably that for the next 30 years and more he was constantly at work for that publication.

He saw service in 27 campaigns and revolutions, journeyed far and wide in every continent, travelled three times round the world, reporting and picturing State occasions as well as battle scenes, and even shared Lady-smith's awful 15-month siege. Regarded as one of the most

adventurous and daring of artist correspondents, Melton Prior was remarkable for the speed at which, no matter how great the battle peril, he always worked. Said H. M. Stanley, one of his admiring colleagues: "I believe that if Melton Prior wished, he could accurately depict a streak of lightning."

Yet so different were the conditions of his time from our own that his pictures and descriptions might take days, even weeks, to reach his paper—and yet prove "hot news." Today, wireless enables his successors to send home for publication in the afternoon newspapers wirelessly photographs of the morning's events, and even to broadcast verbal descriptions of the scene and circumstances of the very hour. This vigorous Victorian would have been astounded at it all.

Prior discharged his duties when correspondents at the Front were, as Sir Evelyn Wood said, "as an unnecessary nuisance, barely tolerated." In the recent war his successors were the uniformed, generously accommodated guests of the Allied commanders, who placed at their service scientific facilities that Prior would have considered the feverish imaginings of a Jules Verne or an H. G. Wells.

No man of his age excelled him in quality of work, or in legitimate but audacious enterprise, yet when he heard of correspondents using the bicycle and motor-car for their dispatches, he recalled how in South Africa he had had to ride by ox-wagon at two miles an hour, or by trains so slow that they stopped at wayside farms to pick up or set down passengers.

Today his splendid labours, achieved by primitive methods and apparatus, seem laughable by modern standards, for the publication of his news and views might be a month behind the event. But modern war correspondents know from their own experience what his difficulties were, and they at least will honour his centenary.

Empire Stocks of Wool

A SPLENDID example of post-war economic co-operation between nations of our Commonwealth is the Empire Wool Agreement.

Large quantities of wool were brought to Britain for wartime requirements, such as uniforms and blankets, but owing to the war taking an unexpected course the wool has not been used up and there are more than two years' production of wool still in store.

In spite of the great demand for wool everywhere it may take some time to dispose of this huge surplus and this might interfere with marketing conditions for new wool. So Great Britain, New Zealand, Australia, and South Africa have agreed to hold the stocks in partnership and to sell it, together with new wool, through a joint organisation.

Hong Kong is British Again

THE SURRENDER of Hong Kong to the British has brought to an end the Japanese occupation of one of the most important corners of the British Empire.

Hong Kong is what is known as a Crown Colony. Early in the nineteenth century Britain made every effort to trade with China, but it was only after many disputes that businesses were founded at Canton, the old walled-in city 80 miles up from the mouth of the Canton river. However, the Chinese had no real liking for us. They resented our intrusion, and in order to get us out of their country they offered us Hong Kong, a barren little island off the province of Kwangtung, in exchange for Canton.

Humble Beginnings

That was in 1841. In the Treaty of Nanking in 1842, Hong Kong was ceded to Queen Victoria by the Emperor of China as it was "... necessary and desirable that British subjects should have some port whereat they may careen and refit their ships when required and keep stores ..."

From the rough shacks of the pioneers sprang the great modern colony of Hong Kong, covering the whole of the island, which has a total area of about 32 square miles, and Kowloon, a strip of territory on the mainland. There are leased to us in addition the islands of Lantau and Lamma, as well as land between Deep Bay and Mirs Bay. The whole colony covers an area of about 391 square miles.

Victoria, the capital of the island, is linked to the mainland by a ferry service across the harbour, which is one of the finest in the world.

The Chinese have benefited considerably by the British occupation and development of Hong Kong. Before the war it was a very important industrial centre. It traded extensively with the United Kingdom, chiefly in hides, iron, steel, sugar, cotton, and camphor.

The splendid University has special departments to enable young Chinese students, male or female, to study the arts, medicine, and engineering, and there were over 1000 schools under Government supervision.

Let us hope that it will not be long before Hong Kong regains her prosperity, proudly serving China, the British Empire, and the whole world.

TRADE MOVES

THE wheels of trade seem to be moving again, perhaps slowly, but surely. The Board of Trade's Controller of Footwear has been to Germany to see whether that country can supply hides for Britain's boots and shoes. Carpets, vacuum flasks, and domestic utensils are beginning to come out of British factories.

But the biggest news of all is that the Ministry of Food has arranged for huge supplies of meat from the Argentine. This, of course, will mean giving Argentina goods in return.

Once more we have an illustration of how necessary it is for us to manufacture and export goods.

THE OLD LADY

THE Government are to ask Parliament to place the Bank of England under public ownership. This institution has over 250 years of history. Here are a few facts concerning it.

In 1694 the Government of William III was hard pressed for funds to carry on the war against France. Already taxation had reached its limit, so other means had to be devised to provide the necessary money.

It was then that a Scotsman, William Paterson, suggested that a banking company should be formed to lend money to the Government on interest. So popular did this idea become that within ten days the proposed capital of £1,200,000 had been subscribed. The whole of this money was lent to the Government at 8 per cent interest, the bank being granted by Royal Charter the power to issue notes up to the amount of the loan.

So successful was it that to prevent the formation of rival institutions an Act was passed in 1708 to prevent any other joint stock (that is, publicly subscribed) bank from issuing notes. Notes could therefore only be issued by the very many private and unregulated banks.

During and after the Napoleonic wars there were many finan-

cial troubles, and laws were passed to lessen the effects of the Bank of England's monopoly, though in 1833 the Bank's notes of £5 and over were made legal tender for all payments.

Further controversy led to the famous Bank Charter Act of 1844, which divided the Bank into two distinct departments of which the Issue Department alone had the issue, against fixed amounts of gold, silver, and securities, of paper currency that was legal tender. The Bank of England had to publish a weekly balance sheet of this and its other Banking Department.

This banking department acts as banker to the Government; and also to all our other joint-stock banks, whose balances it holds on deposit.

If Parliament nationalises the Bank of England, the Government will on behalf of the country take over the shares from the existing shareholders, who will receive compensation. The Old Lady of Threadneedle Street (as the Bank is known) will thus become State property.

See how your Savings grow!

At end of

10 TH YEAR	20/6
9 TH "	19/6
8 TH "	19/-
7 TH "	18/6
6 TH "	18/-
5 TH "	17/6
4 TH "	16/9
3 RD "	16/3
2 ND "	15/9
1 ST "	15/3
PURCHASE PRICE	15/-



in NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES

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Sleep, Baby, Sleep

...and grow
...and thrive
...and gain!



A baby must have long hours of restful, unbroken sleep if he is to grow into a sturdy, healthy child. For this reason mothers see to it that stomach upsets are corrected at once. A small dose of *Milk of Magnesia* quickly soothes baby when fretful or upset and paves the way to undisturbed sleep. Keep 'Milk of Magnesia' in the medicine cabinet *always*.

'MILK OF MAGNESIA'

Milk of Magnesia is the trade mark of Phillips' preparation of magnesia.

THE BRAN TUB

Jacko and the Cats' Chorus



T IRED after a long country walk, Jacko had gone to bed early, but he could not get a wink of sleep because of the cats serenading him. In desperation he seized a jug of water and emptied it out of the window just as Adolphus arrived at the front door. "Oh, oh! Brr!" gasped and spluttered dripping Adolphus. "Serves you right for making all that noise," shouted Jacko, thinking he had drenched the cats.

QUAINT QUERY

"DADDY," said little David after a visit to the aquarium at the Zoo, "why is it that baby fishes don't drown before they learn how to swim?"

Bird Divers

NATURE gives special help for their diving tactics to those birds seen at the seaside disappearing under the water and coming up much farther away.

The feathers are closely packed and very oily; the body is like a round wedge so that it cuts through the water easily, and the legs are set well back and are like strong paddles, which is the reason why these birds are so often clumsy walkers on land.

A heavier body is better for diving, so many of the bones are solid, while in swift fliers the bones have spaces filled with air to make them light.

EMPTY-HEADED

A STUPID young maiden called Redd Had a very large bruise on her head. When a friend cried, "Oh dear, That is painful, I fear," "It is just next to nothing," she said.

Chest was raw with coughing until—



'Pineate'
HONEY
COUGH-SYRUP

a dose of soothing 'Pineate' Honey Cough Syrup brought immediate relief and restful sleep. 'Pineate' Honey Cough Syrup eases chest, throat and lungs and breaks up stubborn phlegm. It is delicious to take. Only half a teaspoonful will check a cough immediately. Buy a 1/9 bottle to-day. (Price includes Purchase Tax). Good for children too! Insist on

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

A Snug House. "What a dear little nest!" exclaimed Ann, pointing to a dome-shaped structure slung between several cornstalks.

"It belongs to a harvest-mouse," answered Don, "and you won't find an entrance because there isn't one. The nest is made so that the mice can enter or leave it at any spot."

"How odd," retorted his sister. "But necessary," commented Farmer Gray, who had overheard Ann's remark. "You see," he exclaimed, "the baby mice, when born, are quite naked. If there were a hole, they might take cold; but instead the nest retains the heat from their own bodies, and also from their parents. Thus they are kept snug and warm."

Rainy Day Ruse

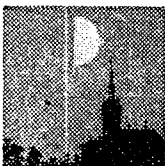
TAKE a penny, a circle of paper the same size, and a tube of cardboard having a diameter about that of a penny. If you have no tube one can be made with stiff paper.

Put the circle of paper on the table, hold the penny about an inch above it, and then ask a friend if he can lift the paper disc with the tube.

It is a very simple trick. Just hold the tube upright above the penny, blow down the tube, and the paper circle will jump up and stick to the bottom of the coin.

Other Worlds

IN the morning Mercury, Venus and Saturn are in the east, and Mars is in the south-east. The picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at 7 p.m. BST, on Friday, September 14.



CATCH QUESTION

"My five sons have a sister each," said Mr Robins. How many children had he? 275

FACTS ABOUT MONGOLIA

THIS vast, vaguely-defined and sparsely populated land between China and Siberia is about 21 times the size of Great Britain. Within its area is part of the immense Gobi desert. Its population is about one million, most of whom are Buddhists of the Mongol race. More than 30 per cent of the men are lamas (monks).

Mongolia is divided into three parts: Inner Mongolia, adjoining China; Outer Mongolia, an independent republic comprising

the Northern and larger part of the country; and Tannu-Tuva, a small republic under Soviet protection in the North-West of Mongolia.

Agriculture is little practised, and the principal exports are wool, pigs, sheep, goats, and gold from Outer Mongolia. Camels are bred for transport.

The principal towns are Urga (or Ulan Bator Hoto), the capital of Outer Mongolia, population, 100,000, and Kysylchoto, capital of Tannu-Tuva (10,000).

The Children's Hour

BBC broadcasts from Wednesday, September 12, to Tuesday, September 18.

WEDNESDAY, 5.15 The Wizard of Oz (Part 4). 5.35 Man of the Trees; first of a series of talks by R. St Barbe Baker (No 1)—The Honey-Bird. 5.55 Prayers. **North** 5.35 Books Worth Reading. **Scottish**, 5.15 Scottish Lullabies. 5.30 Recorded feature by John Keir Cross.

THURSDAY, 5.15 The Emperor's New Clothes—Hans Andersen's fairy story retold in words and music, with a cast including Wilfred Pickles, the Kendal Singers, and the BBC Northern Orchestra.

FRIDAY, 5.15 Storm of Green Hillocks (Part 2)—a serial play by Tudor Watkins.

SATURDAY, 5.15 Ulster Maga-

zine; followed by Sea Swallows of Burial Isle, by Guy Priest; and child artists.

SUNDAY, 5.15 Samuel Cunard, a portrait of the great shipbuilder. **North**, 5.15 Isle of Wonders, the Warden of the Calf of Man takes two children and all listeners on a visit to his fascinating little island.

MONDAY, 5.15 The Temple of Sacred Cats, a story by Mervyn Vance; followed by The Mystery of Brookside School; another adventure of the boy detectives. **North**, 5.15 The week's programme, followed by Five Children and It, or The Psammead, by E. Nesbit—The Sixth Wish.

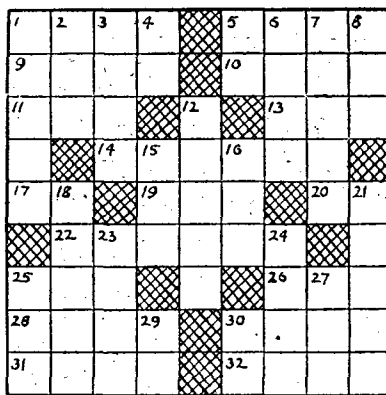
TUESDAY, 5.15 BBC Scottish Orchestra; followed by When the Weathercock Screamed, a story told by Grace MacChlery.

Cross Word Puzzle

Reading Across. 1 Popular with Scouts and Guides. 5 Important German river. 9 A notion. 10 A roving journey. 11 Small point made with a pin. 13 This renders a second sentence negative. 14 Praise. 17 Royal Navy. 19 French copper coin. 20 In this manner. 22 People of great skill. 25 Mother of us all. 26 Incombustible residue. 28 To be boisterous. 30 Carries a corpse. 31 The deepest female voice. 32 On the sheltered side.

Reading Down. 1 A drink made from apples. 2 Bustle. 3 To measure. 4 Child's name for father. 5 French for and. 6 Extended. 7 Floating markers. 8 To wander. 12 A hill. 15 To employ. 16 Beyond usual limits. 18 Pertaining to the Senior Service. 21 Clays coloured with the oxides of iron. 23 A depression. 24 To begin a sea voyage. 25 An age. 27 To perceive. 29 In the direction of. 30 Bachelor of Arts.

Asterisks indicate abbreviations. Answer next week



TIME LAG

THE country stationmaster was very proud of the watch presented to him for long service.

"What is the matter?" asked a passing farmer as he saw him standing early one morning with his watch in his hand, gazing anxiously toward the east.

"Well," was the reply, "if that sun isn't over the hill in half a minute, he'll be late."

Tongue-Twister Puzzle

MAKE a well-known tongue-twister by putting the same consonant among these letters nine times: ETERIERICKEDAECKOFICKLEDEER. Answer next week

A FRUITY RIDDLE

WHY did the apple ring
A—ting—a—ling—a ling?
Well, I can now reveal,
It heard the orange "peel!"

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